

Without enforcement of our immigration laws, our borders are meaningless. And if our borders are meaningless, then America ceases to be a nation and instead becomes a vast international territory between Canada and Mexico.

Mr. Speaker, I fear that is the ultimate objective of the left and that the only force that can stop them now is the American people at the ballot box.

EXPANDING CIVIL RIGHTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. QUIGLEY). The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. MURPHY) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MURPHY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Equality Act, a long overdue measure I cosponsored to expand important civil rights protections to every American.

This is personal for me and my district. Central Florida is an area that prides itself on its diversity, compassion, and inclusiveness. But tragedy struck in June 2016, when a gunman walked into the Pulse nightclub and took the lives of 49 innocent individuals. Our community relied on those same values—diversity, compassion, and inclusiveness—to overcome hate and move forward together with love.

But despite tremendous progress our Nation has made toward equality, too many LGBTQ Americans still live in fear. That is because LGBTQ people across the country remain vulnerable to discrimination on a daily basis. The Equality Act ensures protections that already exist for other protected classes are equally available to all Americans. It is past time we pass this bill so that no American faces discrimination because of who they are or whom they love.

HONORING DAVID KING

Mrs. MURPHY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor David King, a constituent of mine who passed away recently.

David was born and raised in Tennessee. He attended Tennessee Technical College and Vanderbilt Law School, where he was an editor of the law review. David then served honorably in the Marine Corps, deploying to Vietnam. Following his military service, David relocated to Orlando with his college sweetheart, Marilyn, by his side. Together, they made central Florida home.

David was a trial attorney of skill and integrity, earning the esteem of fellow lawyers and judges. David fought vigorously for his clients but always treated his courtroom opponents and the justice system itself with respect.

David served as lead attorney for the Fair District Coalition, which worked to end partisan gerrymandering in Florida. David was dedicated to the cause of free and fair elections and to the principle that every vote matters in our democracy. David was deeply committed to his central Florida com-

munity, generously giving his time, energy, and financial support to many local nonprofit organizations.

David's proudest accomplishment was his family, especially his 56-year marriage to Marilyn and the sons and grandchildren their happy union produced.

May God bless the memory of this wonderful man, and may God bless his family, his friends, and all those who loved him.

REMEMBERING RONNIE MOHR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of my friend and fellow Hoosier, Ronnie Mohr.

Ronnie was a 1966 graduate from Hancock Central High School before receiving a degree at Purdue and then serving in the United States Army 101st Airborne Division during the Vietnam war.

Ronnie was a pillar in the Greenfield community and a well-respected farmer across the State. He was also a member of my Agricultural Advisory Board on top of being a member of the Indiana Corn Growers Association, Hancock County Sheriff's Merit Board, NineStar Connect Board, and Hancock County Drainage Board.

My thoughts are with his wife, Sarah; his three children; and his 10 grandchildren. Ronnie's legacy will live on forever.

COLUMBUS, INDIANA'S BICENTENNIAL

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of my hometown, Columbus, Indiana's bicentennial.

For 200 years, Columbus has been a vibrant community sitting between Indianapolis and Louisville. Today, it is world renowned for its modern and contemporary architecture. It has been my home for my entire life, and I am proud to be serving my hometown community.

Happy 200th birthday to Columbus, Indiana.

CONGRATULATING INDIANA SECRETARY OF STATE CONNIE LAWSON

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my friend, Indiana Secretary of State Connie Lawson, on her retirement.

Secretary Lawson is a true public servant who dedicated her life to helping Hoosiers. Having served 32 years in public office, Connie was a champion for secure elections and the first woman to serve as majority floor leader in the Indiana Senate.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Secretary Lawson for all the work she has done for the State of Indiana, and I wish her good luck on her future endeavors.

MOUNT SURIBACHI

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of the Battle of Iwo Jima and the taking of Mount Suribachi.

On February 23, 1945, U.S. Marines were battling the Japanese to gain con-

trol of Iwo Jima. It was that day that Mount Suribachi was captured and the flag was raised for all to see. The Battle of Iwo Jima would become the deadliest battle in the United States Marine Corps history. Having visited Iwo Jima during my service, I will always remember those sacrifices of my fellow marines.

Semper Fi. God bless the Marine Corps and the United States. Oorah.

DEMOCRATS' LATEST COVID BILL

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because the Democrats' newest proposal is, yet again, a political statement rather than a sincere effort at COVID relief.

Last year's CARES Act distributed money mainly by State population, but much of the \$220 billion for States in the new bill will be allocated based on average unemployment over the 3-month period ending in December.

In other words, States who fought COVID-19, took care of their small businesses, and helped their citizens stay afloat during the pandemic by being open are receiving less funds. Meanwhile, leftwing States—like New York, Illinois, and California—are getting rewarded for crushing small businesses.

Relief for hardworking Americans must be bipartisan, and it must be fair, end of story.

MARCH MADNESS

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Indiana on hosting March Madness this year.

We are going to have divisions I, II, and III all over the State. We owe this opportunity and achievement to Governor Holcomb and his great work leading our State through our fight with COVID. With our Nation's eyes upon the Hoosier State, our deep-rooted history with basketball will be well-represented.

Congratulations to the NCAA and Indiana. It is sure to be an extraordinary tournament.

RECOGNIZING KAPPA RHO ZETA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. TLAIB) for 5 minutes.

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the resilience of the residents in my district who have seen the traumatic impacts of the pandemic but they continue to show up for each other.

The sisterhood among the women of the Zeta Phi Beta's Highland Park Michigan chapter, Kappa Rho Zeta, in my district are a true testament to our community's strength. This sorority was founded with the purpose of upholding the tenets of sisterhood and service. Over the past 40 years, the sisters have given countless hours of community service to the people of Highland Park.

Their service and charity work has extended to so many organizations across my district. Even during some

of our district's most challenging times, they continue to show up for our neighborhoods and community members who are most vulnerable. They have spearheaded annual holiday celebrations for our seniors, provided workshops and assistance for pregnant mothers, and uplifted the graduating high school students of Highland Park by awarding scholarships to support them in their academic pursuits.

This is our district's strength. I am honored to uplift the 40 years of sisterhood, service, and strength of the women of Zeta Phi Beta's Kappa Rho Zeta Chapter and their many outstanding contributions to the residents of Highland Park and 13th District Strong.

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HONORING WAYNE COUNTY RESIDENTS LOST TO COVID-19

Ms. TLAIB. The people define my district and its history, so it is essential that I give reverence to the residents who are among the 500,000 people in the United States who lost their lives as a result of the coronavirus.

I would like to honor a valuable member of the community who has passed, Ms. Abena Hogan.

Ms. Hogan was born and raised in Detroit and was a proud daughter of our community.

She began her first career in public service working for southeast Michigan's regional public transit system. After 20 years of service, Ms. Hogan briefly retired before she was called back into service to work for our Wayne County Clerk.

Ms. Hogan took immense pride in serving the people of Wayne County, and Ms. Hogan believed deeply in the power of the people and grassroots action. She will be dearly, dearly missed.

I also want to give tribute to a very highly respected public servant. This is Wayne County Sheriff Benny Napoleon. He left a tremendous mark on our community and the community that he truly loved to serve.

Benny Napoleon served as our Wayne County Sheriff from 2009 until the time of his death. His love for Detroit and its people was unwavering. His tenure as Wayne County Sheriff was marked by his work to reduce inmate populations by utilizing alternatives to incarceration and employing electronic tethering.

Napoleon was well-known for his personality and his big heart, and he had a smile that would just light up a room.

Shortly after his death, we lost yet another public servant in our district, Mayor Dan Paletko.

Mayor Paletko served the Dearborn Heights community from 2004 until his death late last year. He prioritized making Dearborn Heights a welcoming place for all of its residents to call home and was especially proud of his city's rich cultural diversity and recreational resources. His pride in Dearborn Heights was evident in his dedication.

We will continue to honor the memories of not only the mayor, the sheriff, and Abena, but also the countless other residents of 13th District Strong who have lost their lives to this deadly disease.

Wayne County Sheriff Benny Napoleon, Dearborn Heights Mayor Dan Paletko, and Abena Hogan are three of more than 16,000 Michigan residents who have lost their lives to COVID.

It is essential that our families who have suffered such a great loss this past year get the resources and support they need from our government so that they do not face financial struggles and hardship because of the pandemic.

We must act now. Our families and our communities can't wait any longer. Our families deserve recurring payments. Our local communities deserve direct aid. Our residents deserve to be vaccinated, and our students deserve to be educated in a safe environment where they can not only learn but thrive.

So today, I rise in remembrance of those we have lost due to COVID but lean on the strength and the resiliency of my district who deserves more.

STUDENT PHILANTHROPISTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize two students in my district, Pennsylvania's 15th Congressional District, who have gone out of their way to better their communities recently. After reading about their work, I felt that they deserved this recognition.

Richard Clark is a student at Mount Aloysius College in Cresson, Pennsylvania. Richard is an MBA student and decided to use a class project opportunity, assignment, as an opportunity to help the Keystone Regional Fire and Rescue Department. He helped the president of the fire department write an application, a grant application, that resulted in a \$10,000 grant to benefit that organization and, certainly, the citizens, families, and communities that that emergency service organization serves.

Before serving in Congress, I spent nearly 30 years as a State-certified volunteer firefighter. It was an honor to serve my community, and I know firsthand how big of a deal, how big of a difference those funds can make in a small-town company in a rural area. Dave Fulton, president of the fire company, said that the funds would be combined with support from the county to purchase a new radio system.

Richard's professor, Dr. Leah Spangler offered high praise, saying: "I'm just so happy to have a student who is so invested in an organization to really do this kind of work for them. It's so much more than a grade for a class that you can do something so positive for the community."

I would like to thank Richard for his hard work, his dedication, and his commitment to serving his community.

In Indiana, Pennsylvania, a 17-year-old named Lily Palfrey recently reached the highest service level possible in 4-H by completing her Diamond Clover project.

Lily's father, Sergeant Frank Palfrey, has spent more than 30 years with the Army National Guard, serving as the inspiration for her service project. She collected more than \$9,000 in donations and sent more than 150 boxes filled with personal care items to our National Guard troops, our citizen warriors who are deployed overseas.

Accompanying her service project is a video called "We Serve Too," a presentation that Lily developed through her church to share the stories of military families.

Though she has fulfilled her service project obligation, Lily continues to collect morale-boosting donations like board games, snacks, and coffee.

I am encouraged by the kindness and the generosity of both Richard and Lily. Thank you to these two for their spirit of service.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CALVIN C. GOODE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GALLEGO) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GALLEGO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Calvin C. Goode, a civil rights leader and longest-serving Phoenix City Council member in the city's history.

Mr. Goode passed away in December 2020 at the age of 93, but his impact on Phoenix will be felt for generations to come.

Calvin moved to Arizona with his family when he was just 10 months old, and later had to move across the State to find a high school that would enroll Black students. He eventually graduated from Carver High School in 1945 and went on to earn a master's in education from Arizona State University.

In 1971, Calvin became only the second Black American ever elected to the Phoenix City Council. In his 22 years on the council, Calvin advocated for historic preservation, affordable housing, more accessible neighborhoods, and educational programs such as Head Start.

Calvin was married to his wife, Georgie Mae Goode, a Phoenix activist and educator, for 55 years.

As we continue to celebrate Black History Month, I would like to recognize and share my appreciation for Calvin C. Goode's commitment to the Black community in Phoenix and to advancing the lives of young people in the city. His spirit will be missed, and his leadership will be felt for years to come.